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The book is one of the "Wiley Technical Series" for vocational and industrial schools. It should prove a valuable reference work for classes in general science and in agriculture in schools which do not attempt to give a separate course in entomology.

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DAVIS, K. C. *Productive Plant Husbandry—A Textbook for High Schools*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. 8vo, pp. 462, 312 illustrations. \$1.75 net.

Professor Davis' first volume in the new "Farm Life Text Series," to be published by the J. B. Lippincott Company, is certain to meet with favor among the high-school teachers of agriculture the country over. The book is written particularly for school use and is to be covered during one school year.

The author starts out by giving the principles of plant growth and breeding, for the comprehension of which a preliminary study of botany is unnecessary, and follows this with a discussion of seeds and propagation. After this introductory material come five chapters on the general subjects of "Soils and Their Uses," "Water and Soils," "Conservation and Improvement of Soils," "Drainage and Irrigation," and "Crop Rotation." Following these are fifteen chapters devoted to the specific crops, viz.: "Grasses," "Leguminous Crops," "Corn," "Small Grains," "Potatoes," "Sugar Beets and Other Roots," "Vegetables," "Cotton," "Minor Fiber Crops," "Sugar Cane," "Fruits, Large and Small," "Forest Products," and "Tobacco." The concluding chapters deal with "Weeds," "Economic Insects," "Plant Diseases," "Methods of Controlling Insects and Plant Diseases," "The Business of Farming," and "The Rural Community."

From the standpoint of its pedagogical merits the book is rather superior. To each chapter there is added "Field and Laboratory Exercises" as well as "Questions and Problems." There are also copious references for further study. The illustrations are numerous and clear and really illustrate the text. Teachers interested in texts in agriculture providing material for a one-year course will do well to examine Professor Davis' book with some care before they select a text for their course.

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TOWERS, W. K. *Masters of Space*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1917. Pp. 301. \$1.25.

The masters receiving chief consideration in this book are Morse, Thompson, Bell, Marconi, and Carty. More than a mere bibliography of these individuals is given. In fact, the work is the story of talking at distance, of sending messages through space. The following quotation from the Preface is an excellent summary of the contents of the book:

The story opens with the primitive methods of message-sending by fire or smoke or other signals. The life and experiments of Morse are then pictured and the dramatic story of the invention and development of the telegraph is set forth. The submarine cable followed with the struggles of Field, the business executive, and Thompson, the

inventor and scientific expert, which finally culminated in success when the *Great Eastern* landed a practical cable on the American coast. The early life of Alexander Graham Bell was full of color, and I have told the story of his patient investigations of human speech and hearing, which finally culminated in a practical telephone. There follows the fascinating story of Marconi and the wireless telegraph. Last comes the story of the wireless telephone, that newest wonder which has come among us so recently that we can scarcely realize that it is here. An inner view of the marvelous development of the telephone is added in an appendix.

History teachers will find valuable reference material in this volume. It will do good service in the upper elementary grades as well as in the high school. The paucity of such material has been a great handicap to history teachers in the past, for which reason this book will doubtless receive a hearty welcome.

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THWING, C. F. *Education According to Some Modern Masters*. New York: Platt & Peck Co., 1916. Pp. 296. \$2.00.

The complete title of President Thwing's work is *Education According to Emerson, Carlyle, Ruskin, John Stuart Mill, Gladstone, Matthew Arnold, John Henry Newman and Goethe*. The book aims to save education from what the author calls the peril of losing its human touch. It is his belief that such a discussion as he presents of the foregoing great humanists will do much to counteract the modern tendency of the overemphasis on technical means, methods, and conditions.

The author's method in treating the foregoing masters is to quote freely from their writings, and on the basis of these quotations to draw certain conclusions relative to their ideas concerning education. Because these quotations make up such a large portion of the book, it can be spoken of as a humanistic sourcebook in modern education. For a reference book in a course in the history of modern education the chief value of the book will be found in the direct quotations and the author's summary and concluding chapter.

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KITTREDGE, MABEL HYDE. *The Home and Its Management*. New York: Century Co.

This book is a further expansion, with some additions, of the material which Miss Kittredge has presented in her two earlier books, *Practical Home Making* and *A Second Course in Home Making*.

It is quite difficult to analyze the function of *The Home and Its Management*, though in the main the material seems to be best adapted to the interests of a group whose families need concrete suggestions to assist them in maintaining a sanitary home and an efficient standard of living. It does not seem adapted to use as a text in public-school classes. In spite of the apparently limited function of this book, there are, however, a great many suggestions about living conditions, such as a discussion of the treatment of servants, which hardly belong in a textbook for use in settlement or home-training classes.